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Kentucky Labor Cabinet and US Department of Labor's OSHA announce safety stand-down at work sites on August 6 to focus on fall prevention

Frankfort, KY (August 1, 2013) - The Kentucky Labor Cabinet's Occupational Safety and Health Program and the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, along with trade associations and employers throughout Kentucky and the southeast, will conduct a one-hour safety stand-down on Tuesday, August 6 in support of a nationwide outreach campaign to raise awareness of fall hazards. Employers and workers at construction sites and workplaces are encouraged to voluntarily stop work from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. EDT to conduct safety training focused on the prevention of falls in the workplace. Visit <http://www.rsvpbook.com/event.php?464069> to register for the event.

In 2010, there were 264 fall fatalities out of 774 total fatalities in construction nationwide. Falls **can be prevented** and **lives can be saved** through three simple steps: plan ahead to get the job done safely, provide the right equipment, and train everyone to setup and use the equipment correctly. "Employee awareness and training are essential elements of an effective safety management system that helps ensure workers are protected from workplace hazards," said Anthony Russell, Commissioner of Workplace Standards. "Falls are the leading cause of fatalities and serious injuries in Kentucky's construction industry and our Fall Prevention Campaign, now in week three, is designed to provide employers and employees with awareness tools and information." Participating in the one hour stand-down, as well as the Fall Prevention Campaign, provides employers an excellent opportunity to take advantage of cost free fall prevention resources.

The Kentucky OSH Program, OSHA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and the Center for Construction Research and Training have developed fall prevention educational materials, in English and Spanish, as well as training information. These resources are available at <http://www.osha.gov/stopfalls>, http://stopconstructionfalls.com/?page_id=17, and www.labor.ky.gov. Kentucky invites the public to join the effort by helping to reach workers and employers in your communities with the resources that have been developed.

Members of the public interested in more information about the fall prevention campaign or this event should contact Ms. Kimberlee C. Perry, Director, Division of Education and Training, Ms. Kristi Redmon, CIH, CSP, OSH Standards Specialist, or Mr. Mike Pettit, OSH Standards Specialist at (502) 564-3070.